

FACTS ABOUT DOLLS.

CAUSE OF THE ORIGIN OF THE WAX AND CHINA VARIETIES.

They Were First Used to Show Off Modes of Dress and in the Seventeenth Century Were What Fashion Papers Are Today.

The origin of the word doll is curious. Centuries ago, when saints' names were much in vogue for children, St. Dorothea was the most popular, and her name the best and luckiest that could be given to a child. The name of doll, and from giving babies the nickname it was an easy step to pass it on to the little images of which the babies were so fond.

The word doll is not found in common use in our language until the middle of the eighteenth century, and, as far as can be discovered, first appears in the Gentleman's Magazine for September, 1751, in the following: "Several dolls with different dresses, made in St. James street have been sent to me to show the manner of dressing at present in fashion among English ladies."

Previous to this the word used to describe the favorite plaything of all girls in all countries and in all ages was "babby," which is to be found, together with "poppet," or "puppet," in the lists of the words in the works of the earlier writers.

The wax and china doll originated in the middle of the seventeenth century.

There were no fashion papers as now, and the dolls shown in the center of the room in the convents were beautifully and expensively dressed and sent to the various European countries, and from the model orders were taken.

The dolls to show off their costly garb, must be made of more precious stuff than the common doll, and even these were made.

Thuringia is the land where most dolls are born—puppetland, as it is called on this account. About 200 years ago most of the dolls were made in Flanders, and they were called not dolls, but Pintos. They were used by an old English couplet which ran:

"Value of Light." The children of Holland take pleasure in making The children of England take pleasure in making

At one European doll factory of the present day 100,000 dolls are produced annually, some 500 men, women and children being employed. To make one talking doll requires the joint labor of 300 men, and the cost of the doll is \$100.

Eruptions

Benedict Bros.

NEW LOCATION.

Washington Life Insurance Building,

BROADWAY, COR. LIBERTY ST.

NEW YORK.

The Watch and Jewelry House of Benedict Bros. was established in Wall Street in 1819 by Samuel W. Benedict, the grandfather of the present Benedict Bros., which makes it probably the oldest in the line in this country.

The present Benedicts remain to the end of the century. In 1883, they have

had a new desire to have larger and fire-proof quarters, and now have, they believe, the most attractive shop in the United States and perhaps in the world.

Their specialties are fine Watches,

Diamonds and other Precious Gems.

TRAGEDY OF AN INSECT.

The sand fly lives but a day after coming into the light.

Here is the tragic story of the sand fly.

It has but a day to live in the light. In order to earn the right to that day of life it lives from one to three years in darkness, down in the mud at the bottom of lakes or rivers. Moreover the sand fly is perfectly harmless. It does not bite. It has no sting. It can't even fly. All it can do is sit about for a few hours, enjoying the light of day or the glare of an electric lamp.

The sand fly is identified with all the deepest and most sacred human emotions. It has bespoken the joys and sorrows of all mankind for centuries. Its voice is the language of love and death. It tells the knot of parting day only in verse. A sand fly today gives greater satisfaction. The angelus sound merely in pictorial form, the fire bells give place to still alarms, the dinner bell is silent in polite society, and such bells are dead.

What is the future of the bell—that happy silver tongue that has sung out the joys of all the world, that solemn tone that has mourned for the nation's dead and voiced the nation's woes and summonned to their graves the nation's worshippers?—Atlantic Monthly.

The sand fly is one of the most interesting and beautiful insects.

The fly lives but a day at most, but during that day it has a life of its own.

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